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# Curricular Affairs Committee Minutes February 8, 2010

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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## CURRICULAR AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

**Minutes** for the fifth meeting of the 2009-2010 academic year.

- I. The meeting was called to order at 3:08 p.m. on Monday, February 8, 2010 in Library Conference Room A, Chairperson Mundorf presiding.

The following members were present: Professors Doerner, Englander, Honhart, Jervis, Leo, MacDonald, Mahler, Misto and Mundorf; Vice Provost Beauvais and Dean Quina.

It was noted that Consent Agenda items are labeled with a *c* and that any member could request that a consent item be discussed.

- II. The Minutes of Meeting #4, December 14, 2009 were approved.

Professor Honhart noted the following from the December 14 minutes with regard to approval of four-credit course changes:

It was agreed that whatever form was used, two syllabi should accompany the proposed credit proposal.

Ms. Grubman agreed to include it in the informational section of the next CAC Report.

### III. REPORTS

- A. Members of the committee reviewed two documents related to 4-credit courses that had been posted on SAKAI:

1. The College of Arts and Sciences' policy on changing 3-credit courses to 4-credit courses
2. Proposed guidelines from the Council of Deans for considering whether colleges should change to a 4-credit curriculum.

- B. Ms. Grubman reviewed for the CAC the following actions, which had been completed during the intersession period:

1. Approval of temporary courses: CHE 475X (or MCE 475X) CVE 366X, and NRS 431X;
2. Approval of GEG 202 (or CPL 202) for online instruction;
3. Approval of PHY 210, GCH 101, GCH 102, GCH 103, GCH 104.

She thanked everyone for participating in the consideration of the items online.

#### IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

##### A. College of the Environment and Life Sciences

###### 1. Department of Environmental and Natural Resources Economics

Ms. Grubman said that she had not received a revised syllabus for EEC 350 as of that date.

###### 2. Department of Nutrition and Food Sciences

Ms. Grubman said that she had not received additional material on NFS 443\* as of that date.

###### 3. Departments of Natural Resources Science and Environmental Economics

Ms. Grubman announced that the proposal for EVS 109X (or NRS 109X or EEC 109X) had been withdrawn by the proposers.

##### B. College of Arts and Sciences

###### Department of English

Following discussion, the change in credits from 3-4 for ENG 300, ENG 302, ENG 303, and ENG 304 was approved.

#### V. NEW BUSINESS

##### A. College of Arts and Sciences

###### 1. Department of Communication Studies

Ms. Grubman announced that although the addition of COM 455\* had appeared in the A&S Curriculum Committee Report, the course had not been approved and would be forwarded at a later date when questions about the course are resolved.

###### 2. Department of English

Discussion ensued regarding the changes proposed by the English Department.

Following discussion, consideration of all matters from the department of English were postponed, including all of the items on the consent Agenda, pending receipt of an overall explanation of the English changes, a rationale for the shift to 4-credit courses and a clearer explanation of what is different about the 4-credit courses from the existing 3-credit courses. In short, a full curriculum change proposal to provide an overview of the department's intentions.

\*May require action by the Graduate Council

3. Department of History

- ℓ The change title and description for HIS 111 was approved.

4. Department of Psychology

- ℓ The cross-listing of HSS 130 as HSS 130 (or PSY 130) was approved.

B. College of Business Administration

The addition of BUS 390 was approved.

C. College of Engineering

1. Engineering

Consideration of the addition of EGR 377 was postponed pending receipt of a more detailed syllabus and rationale.

2. Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

- a. The addition of CVE 323 was approved.
- b. Consideration of the change in credits for CVE 205 was postponed pending receipt of two syllabi.

3. Department of Electrical, Computer and Biomedical Engineering

Consideration of the addition of ELE 470\* was postponed pending receipt of a more detailed syllabus and a clarification of the method of instruction.

D. College of the Environment and Life Sciences

1. Department of Biological Sciences

- ℓ The change in description and prerequisite for BIO 445 was approved.

2. Department of Cell and Molecular Biology

Consideration of the addition of BCH 435 (or MIC 435) was postponed pending receipt of a more detailed syllabus and method of instruction.

3. Department of Environmental & Natural Resource Economics

- a. The consolidate two majors into one major with two options was approved.
- ℓ b. The change in prerequisite for EEC 432\* was approved.

\*May require action by the Graduate Council

4. Fisheries, Animal and Veterinary Science

ℳ The change in prerequisite for AVS 343 was approved.

5. Department of Geosciences

The consolidation of two majors into one major, reduction of options and change in curricular requirements for the B.S. Degree was approved.

6. Department of Marine Affairs

The change in requirements for the B.S. in Marine Affairs was approved.

E. Graduate School of Oceanography

The addition of OCG 440 (simultaneous course with OCG 540) was approved.

F. Online Course

The addition of PSY 255 (Anatchkova) to the list of courses approved permitted to be taught online was approved.

G. Courses not taught in at least 2 years or scheduled to be offered in third year - 8.81.62-3 of the UNIVERSITY MANUAL:

Following discussion, the deletion of all courses which departments agreed to eliminate and those for which no response to the request was received was approved.

Professor Honhart requested that for the next meeting, the list of courses that departments had indicated they wanted to retain be annotated to include the date when they were last taught.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Black Grubman